

# ANNUAL REPORT

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ON THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District

FOR THE YEAR 1909.




JAMES ANDERSON, M.B., &c.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



T. E. SMITH, Printer, Poulton-le-Fylde.



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# Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Eighth Annual Report on the health and sanitary administration of your district, together with statistics showing the births, deaths, &c., for the year ending December 31st, 1909. The Factory and Workshops Act is also noted.

## GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The township of Poulton-le-Fylde is situated about three miles from Blackpool. The town itself stands on an eminence; is well drained, and having no manufactures may be considered purely residential.

The surrounding farmers are mostly employed in furnishing fruit, vegetables, cheese, butter, and more especially milk for Blackpool and large inland towns.

Although the subsoil is clay, acute rheumatism is exceedingly rare, and epidemics of any sort are meagre in the Urban and immediate district.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

AREA AND POPULATION.—The area of the Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District is 915 statute acres, and I estimate the population for the year under report at 2,700, and on this figure the birth and death rates are calculated. The population at the Census, 1901, was enumerated at 2,223.

**BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES.**—The Births registered during the year 1909 numbered 57 (males 31, females 26). The birth-rate per 1,000 of the population was 21.1, the highest rate recorded since 1905. Last year the rate was 19.6 in 1907, 16.8, and the average for the eight years 1901-8 was 22.2.

**DEATHS AND DEATH RATES.**—The total deaths registered in the district amounted to 33, but to these must be added 5 deaths of persons belonging to Poulton which took place in Public Institutions outside the district. The total (38) gives a death-rate per 1,000 of 14.0, or 0.5 per 1,000 below the rate recorded last year. In 1907 the rate was 15.6, 12.8 in 1906, 11.2 in 1905, 13.7 in 1904, and an average for the eight years since the district was created a separate sanitary district of 14.6.

Table IV. appended analyses the causes of death at various age periods.

**THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL EPIDEMIC DISEASES** contributed only one death—enteric fever, a patient in the Moss Side Fever Hospital, removed from this district. The epidemic death-rate corresponded to 0.37 against 0.78 last year.

**PHTHISIS** (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) did not give rise to a single death. In 1908 there was one death, and five deaths occurred from this disease in 1907.

**RESPIRATORY DISEASES**, including Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy, were accredited with 5 deaths, corresponding to a rate of 1.85 per 1,000. The average for the previous year was 1.17, and 1.96 for 1907.

**INFANTILE MORTALITY.**—Nine deaths took place amongst children under the age of one year, giving an average—calculated per 1,000 births—of 157. Last

year 10 deaths were registered, average 200 ; 1907, 4 deaths, average 93 ; 1906, 4 deaths, average 86. The mean of the years 1901-8 was 111. Two deaths were due to enteritis, 2 to debility, &c., and one each premature birth, congenital defects, convulsions, bronchitis, and pneumonia.

Further details as to deaths, death-rates, &c., are given on the Local Government Board Tables appended.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—19 cases were notified, of which 14 were mild cases of scarlet fever, 4 diphtheria, and one enteric fever, which case died in Moss Side Hospital.

Of these notified cases 9 scarlet fever, 1 diphtheria, and 1 enteric fever case were sent to Moss Side.

I may remark that although your district is affected with a few cases of Diphtheria no arrangement has been made for supplying medical practitioners with its anti-toxin. Neither is it compulsory to notify Phthisical cases.

The slaughter-houses are very well constructed and kept regularly in good condition. These in your district are systematically inspected.

A few of the working-class houses have been repaired, but none have been condemned nor demolished.

WATER SUPPLY.—I should say the water supply from the Fylde Water Works is good and plentiful.

The Bakehouses, Cow Sheds, and Cattle Auction Buildings are well kept and ventilated. The cubic space on an average of about 800 is quite sufficient for shippens.

MILK VENDORS AND DAIRIES.—Of these there are a dozen, and in no case are the cows kept up either during the winter or summer. The milk houses and utensils are well attended to.

SCAVENGING.—I am glad to still mark improvement in this department, which is carried out by the Council.

DISINFECTION.—This is carried out satisfactorily.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.—One accident happened at the end of December last, when a sack of grain fell from the hoist chain on to a workman's neck and back, causing concussion of the spine, from which he made a good recovery.

One young female was certified in your district physically fit for dressmaking. There were no rejections of such cases.

SANITARY REQUIREMENTS.—These include a spirited policy in laying and making the streets and pavements that have not yet been finished with careful attention to the joining up of all drains to the common sewers.

The town would certainly be made one of the most unique in the Fylde if the property surrounding the churchyard were taken down, so that less danger would be encountered in the neighbouring streets.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I am, yours faithfully,

**JAMES ANDERSON,**

M.B. (Glasgow), and L.R.C.S. (Edin.),  
M.O.H., Poulton-le-Fylde.

FEBRUARY 26th, 1910.

TABLE I.—*Vital Statistics of the Urban District of Poulton-le-Fylde during 1909.*

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		Total deaths in Public Institutions.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in District.	Deaths of Residents registered beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NETT.	
		Number	Rate *	Number	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Number	Rate *				Number	Rate *
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1901	2223	51	22.9	7	137	32	14.3	..	1	..	31	13.9
1902	2223	59	26.3	6	101	33	14.8	..	..	..	33	14.8
1903	2223	67	30.1	4	59	23	10.3	..	..	..	23	10.3
1904	2250	49	21.7	8	163	29	12.8	..	..	2	31	13.7
1905	2500	56	22.4	3	53	27	10.8	..	..	1	28	11.2
1906	2500	46	18.4	4	86	31	12.4	..	..	1	32	12.8
1907	2550	43	16.8	4	93	40	15.6	..	..	..	40	15.6
1908	2550	50	19.6	10	200	34	13.3	..	..	3	37	14.5
Averages for years 1901-1908	2377	52	22.2	5	111	31	13.0	..	..	..	31	14.6
1909	2700	57	21.1	9	157	33	12.2	..	..	5	38	14.0

\* Rates in Column 4, 8, and 13, calculated per 1,000 of the estimated population.

**TABLE II.**

*Vital Statistics of separate Locality in 1909 and previous years  
of Urban District of Poulton-le-Fylde.*

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1901.....	2223	51	31	7
1902.....	2223	50	33	6
1903.....	2223	67	23	4
1904.....	2250	49	31	8
1905.....	2500	56	28	3
1906.....	2500	46	32	4
1907.....	2550	43	40	4
1908.....	2550	50	37	10
Averages of years 1901 to 1908 ...	2377	52	31	5
1909.....	2700	57	38	9



**TABLE III.**—*Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1909.*

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						Total cases removed to Hospital.	Total deaths notified in Poulton Urban District.
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) .....	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Scarlet Fever ....	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	I
Enteric Fever ...	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Totals .....	19	..	..	..	..	..	11	I

TABLE IV.

*Causes of, and Ages at Death during Year 1909.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICTS AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Croup .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Fever—Enteric .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Enteritis .....	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
Cancer, Malignant disease	4	..	..	..	..	3	1
Bronchitis.....	4	1	..	..	..	1	2
Pneumonia .....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Other Diseases of Res- piratory Organs .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth .....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Heart Diseases .....	3	..	..	1	..	2	..
Accidents .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
All other causes .....	19	4	2	2	..	6	5
All causes.....	38	9	5	4	..	12	8

**TABLE V.**—Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under one year of age, during 1900.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	Total under 1 month	1-2 months	2-3 months	7-8 months	8-9 months	9-10 months	11-12 months	Total Deaths under one year.
All causes Certified ..	2	..	..	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	9
Diarrhoeae Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2
Wasting diseases	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Convulsions ...	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Pneumonia .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	2	..	..	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	9



Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.

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## NUISANCE INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

## SANITARY CONDITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1909.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Eighth Annual Report on work done within your district and Summary of Nuisances for year ending 31st December, 1909.

BAKEHOUSES.—I have inspected these on various occasions, and have always found them to be kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSE.—This has been registered during the past year, and although I have frequently visited the same, I am pleased to say that house is always kept in a very orderly and cleanly state.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—All of these are kept in a fair condition, but in a few cases structural alterations will be necessary if the premises are to comply with the Regulations adopted by the Council.

DISINFECTION.—Where any notifiable infectious diseases have occurred disinfection has been carried out as efficiently as possible with the appliances at our disposal, and in no case, so far as I am aware, has a fresh case of infection been attributed to failure in this direction.

NEW HOUSES.—Thirteen new houses have been completed and certified for habitation during the past year, all of which are supplied with water by the Ryde Water Board, and with one exception all are connected with the main sewers.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—None.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—There are three licensed and registered Slaughter-Houses in the district, all of which are regularly inspected and periodically whitewashed.

The licences being—

Mr. William Bennett, off Sheaf Street ;  
Mr. Joseph Rawcliffe, off Church Street ;  
Mr. James Roskell, Tithelbarn Street.

WATER COURSES.—These are maintained in fairly good order, but in the south-westerly portion of the district there is room for improvement.

SEWERAGE.—The district is sewered on the combined system, and the sewage flows by gravitation into the tidal portion of the River Wyre at Skippool.

The sewers are flushed and cleaned out once a month in winter months, and oftener, if necessary, during the warmer months.

# REMOVAL OF NIGHTSOIL AND CLEANING OF ASHPITS.

—There are 127 ashbins in use in the district ; these are emptied weekly.

The ordinary removal of house refuse, &c., has in the past been carried out three times during the year, but during the last twelve months I have succeeded in reducing the period between each clearance, so that every ashpit has been cleaned out four times. This, no doubt, is an improvement, but it is desirable that a further reduction be made as a monthly clearance would be much more sanitary.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

Letters and Notices served by Inspector . . . .	69
Notices served by Order of the Council . . . . .	1
Drains opened, cleaned, and rectified . . . . .	32
Back yards cleared of objectionable matter..	11
New bins provided . . . . .	25
Defective soil pipes . . . . .	6
Defective Water Closets . . . . .	4
Defective Privies . . . . .	12
Defective Ashpits . . . . .	18
Connections to sewer and drains smoke tested	20
Total number of defects rectified . . . . .	129
Total number of premises inspected . . . . .	270

In conclusion allow me to thank those owners of property who have made improvements on the same being suggested to them, and in this way obviating the necessity of bringing the same to the notice of the Council.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**J. BURTON MOSS,**

Inspector of Nuisances.

